For Immediate Release Aug. 3, 2015

BLM Seeks Public Comment on Draft Business Plan for Sand Flats Recreation Area

Media Contact: Beth Ransel, (435)259-2119

Moab, Utah—The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Moab Field Office is now accepting public comment on a draft business plan proposing to increase recreation fees at the Sand Flats Recreation Area in Grand County, Utah.

The Sand Flats Recreation Area is managed under a cooperative agreement between Grand County and the Bureau of Land Management. Visitation at this site has increased 23 percent since fees were last amended in 2009 and the cost of providing services has steadily increased.

Grand County recommends that the camping fee be changed from \$10 per vehicle to \$15 per vehicle per night. The utility trailer fee would be changed from \$2 to \$5 per trailer. The annual pass fee of \$20.00 has not changed since 1998 and would be increased to \$25. The group campsite rates would be increased from \$50 to \$70 per night.

The proposed business plan is available for review online at: http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/moab.html or www.grandcountyutah.net. Hard copies can be obtained at the BLM Moab Field Office, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, Utah 84532 or Grand County, 125 E. Center Street, Moab, UT 84532.

Written comments on the Draft Business Plan will be accepted through Sept. 3, 2015. Please reference "Sand Flats Business Plan" when submitting comments. Written comments may be mailed or emailed using the following addresses:

Mail

Grand County/Sand Flats Recreation Area Attn: Andrea Brand 125 E. Center St. Moab, UT 84532

Email

abrand@grandcountyutah.net

<u>Fax</u> (435)259-1304

Before including an address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in any comments, be aware that the entire comment – including personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. Requests to withhold personal identifying information from public review can be submitted, but the BLM cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

For additional business plan information, contact Katie Stevens at (435)259-2172. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question for the above individual. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's mission is to manage and conserve the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use and sustained yield. In Fiscal Year 2014, the BLM generated \$5.2 billion in receipts from public lands.

-BLM-Follow us on Twitter @BLMUtah